

REMARKS

The specification of the subject U.S. patent application, as filed, as constituted by the verified translation of PCT/DE2003/003470 has been cancelled in favor of the concurrently submitted Substitute Specification. A suitable Abstract of the Disclosure has been added. These changes and additions do not constitute any new matter.

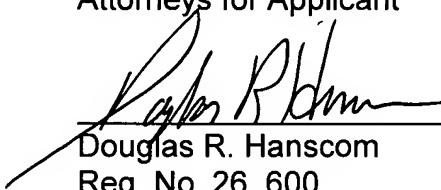
Original claims 1-39, Article 19 claims 1-41, Article 34 claims 1-32 and replacement claims 1-32 have all been cancelled. New claims 42-98 have been added. New claims 42-98 are essentially the same, in scope, as the claims currently pending in the PCT application. They have been rewritten in a form more in accordance with U.S. practice and eliminating multiple dependencies.

Entry of this Preliminary Amendment into the file of the subject U.S. patent application, prior to the calculation of the filing fee, and prior to an examination of the application on the merits is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A former is provided for a web-producing or a web-processing machine. The former is structured with a porous material through which a fluid can pass. The porous material is positioned or located on at least one region of the former that is cooperating with a strip of material to be folded.